

Message Text

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USDEL SALT TWO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UR, KN, KS, PEPR, PLOS, CH, MOPS
SUBJECT: SOVIET VIEWS ON NORTH KOREA

REF: (A) MOSCOW 12915 (NOTAL), (B) MOSCOW 4883 (NOTAL),
(C) MOSCOW 5175 (NOTAL)

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SUMMARY: SOVIET MFA KOREAN DESK OFFICER:

-- AGAIN RULES OUT POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET-ROK TIES;

-- INDICATES SOVIETS ARE "OBSERVING" DPRK MILITARY
SEA BOUNDARY IN A QUALIFIED WAY;

-- HINTS AT SOVIET DISPLEASURE WITH REFERENCES TO "DOMINATIONISM" DURING RECENT HUA KUO-FENG AND CEAUSESCU VISITS TO PYONGYANG;
-- STATES THAT, DESPITE DPRK REQUESTS, MOSCOW WILL NOT CONSIDER FURTHER ECONOMIC AID TO PYONGYANG UNTIL 1979, AND REITERATES THAT SOVIETS ARE NOT PLANNING TO PROVIDE NEW MILITARY AID TO THE DPRK;

-- HOLDS THAT THE KOREAN ISSUE WILL "PROBABLY" NOT BE RAISED AT THE UNGA THIS FALL. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON SOVIET MFA KOREAN DESK OFFICER Y. D. FADEYEV JUNE 6. FADEYEV'S COMMENTS ON KAL INCIDENT CLREADY REPORTED SEPTEL. FOLLOWING ARE HIS COMMENTS ON OTHER KOREA-RELATED TOPICS.

2. SOVIET-ROK RELATIONS. FADEYEV, AS BEFORE, DENIED THAT THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET ACTIONS THAT WOULD SUGGEST SOVIET RECOGNITION OF THE ROK REGIME. HE SAID THAT THERE EXIST NO DIRECT ROK-SOVIET ECONOMIC CONTACTS. AFTER SOVIET REJECTION OF ROK ATTEMPTS TO FISH IN THE NEW SOVIET TWO-HUNDRED MILE ECONOMIC ZONE, FADEYEV CLAIMED THAT THERE WERE SOUTH KOREAN ATTEMPTS TO INCORPORATE ROK REPRESENTATION IN FISHING CONCERNS THA ARE EITHER JOINT (E.G., JAPANESE-ROK) OR IN WHICH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ROK IDENTITY IS SUBMERGED, DESPITE ROK-SOURCED INVESTMENT. THESE EFFORTS, HE SAID, HAVE NDT PROVEN SUCCESSFUL. FADEYEV SAID THAT BREZHNEV ANNOUNCED THAT ALL "STATES AND TERRITORIES" ACCEPTED BY THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE WILL BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1980 OLYMPICS. SOUTH KOREA, WHICH HAS PARTICIPATED IN PAST OLYMPICS, WILL BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE UNDER THE "TERRITORY" CATEGORY IF ACCEPTED BY THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, EVEN THOUGH THE ROK IS NOT RECOGNIZED BY THE USSR. THE SAME WOULD HOLD TRUE FOR TAIWAN, AND, HE LAUGHED, EVEN THE PLD IF IT WERE ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE. SUCH ROK PARTICIPATION, HOWEVER, WOULD NOT IMPLY SOVIET RECOGNITION. (NOTE: IN HIS JUNE 7 COMMENTS TO VISITING MIT PROFESSOR WILLIAM GRIFFITH, TADEYEV'S SUPERIOR, M. A. KAPITSA, SAID MOSCOW IS NOT READY TO ESTABLISH DIRECT CONTACTS WITH THE ROK BECAUSE OF DPRK SENSITIVITIES. END NOTE.)

3. DPRK MILITARY ZONE: EMBOFF PRESSED FADEYEV TO DESCRIBE EXTENT TO WHICH SOVIETS HAVE WEIGHED IN WITH PYONGYANG AGAINST ITS DECISION TO DECLARE AN EXCLUSIVE MILITARY ZONE. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT THE DECLARATION,

LIKE THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENTS BY SEVERAL COUNTRIES
DECLARING A TWO-HUNDRED MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS ZONE,
COULD BECOME A PRECEDENT WHICH WOULD THREATEN THE
INTERESTS OF THE USSR AND THE U.S. FADEYEV, AS BEFORE,
RESPONDED THAT NORTH KOREA IS "SOVEREIGN" AND THEREFORE
HAD A RIGHT TO DECLARE ITS MILITARY SEA BOUNDARY.
MOSCOW, HE SAID, HAS INFORMED THE NORTH KOREANS THAT
IT DID NOT "WELCOME" (PRIVETSTVOVAL) THE ANNOUNCEMENT.

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HE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE SOVIETS MAY SPEAK OUT
AGAINST THE DPRK DECLARATION AT THE RESUMED AUGUST-
SEPTEMBER LOS SEVENTH SESSION IN NEW YORK. IN RESPONSE
TO QUESTIONS, FADEYEV STATED FURTHER THAT
-- THE SOVIETS ON "RARE" OCCASIONS "OBSERVE"
("SOBLYUDAET") THE DPRK BOUNDARY. THESE "RARE"
OCCASIONS HAVE INVOLVED THE SENDING OF SOVIET "SCIENTIFIC

RESEARCH VESSELS" INTO THE DPRK MILITARY ZONE.
-- SOVIET COMMERCIAL SHIPPING TO THE DPRK, INCLUDING
TO THE DPRK PORT OF NAJIM, IS HEAVY, RUNS ON PRE-
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SCHEDULED TIMETABLES AND DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY SPECIAL
NOTIFICATION.
-- AT ONE POINT FADEYEV SAID THAT THE SOVIETS DO
NOT SEND MILITARY VESSELS INTO KOREAN WATERS. AT
ANOTHER POINT HE SAID THAT SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHES,
AS BEFORE THE DPRK ANNOUNCEMENT, INFORMALLY NOTIFY
DPRK AUTHORITIES WHENEVER A SOVIET MILITARY VESSEL IS
SCHEDULED TO ENTER KOREAN WATERS. HE IMPLIED THAT THIS
IS AN OLD PRACTICE AND BASED ON "COURTESY" BETWEEN
FELLOW "SOCIALIST" STATES. (COMMENT: WHILE WE
HESITATE TO JUMP TO ANY CONCLUSIONS ON THIS SCORE,
EADYEYEV'S COMMENTS SUGGEST THAT THE SOVIETS, WHILE
"OBSERVING" THE MILITARY ZONE WITH RESPECT TO RESEARCH-
SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, ARE NOT DOING SO IN A FORMAL
WAY WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY VESSELS. THE "NOTIFICA-
TION" GIVEN BY SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHES WAS COUCHED
IN TERMS OF A NON-OBLIGATORY COURTESY. PERHAPS
(ALTHOUGH AGAIN WE WOULD NOT CARE TO JUMP TO PREMATURE
CONCLUSIONS), THE DPRK IS CONTENT TO "ACCEPT" THESE
NOTIFICATIONS AS SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH ITS REQUIRE-
MENTS ON THE MILITARY SEA BOUNDARY. A SOVIET REFUSAL
TO VIEW PRIOR NOTIFICATION AS OBLIGATORY, OF COURSE,
WOULD BE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE VERY STRONG SOVIET
POSITION AT THE LOS CONFERENCE AGAINST COASTAL STATE
SOVEREIGNTY BEYOND A TWELVE MILE LIMIT. AS
NOTED REF C, PRESERVATION OF SOVIET STRATEGIC-MILITARY

INTERESTS AGAINST THE "CREEPING JURISDICTION" TREND
IS MOSCOW'S PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF SOVIET LOS NEGOTIATORS.
END COMMENT.)

4. SOVIET-DPRK RELATIONS. FADEYEV'S DESCRIPTION OF
THESE RELATIONS WAS SOMEWHAT MORE DOWNBEAT THAN DURING
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MARCH MEETING WITH EMBOFF (REF B). HE DESCRIBED SOVIET-
DPRK RELATIONS AS GENERALLY "STABLE" AND "WIDENING" IN
SOME AREAS, SUCH AS CULTURAL CONTACTS AND HIGH LEVEL
VISITS. HE SAID THAT A ROUND OF SOVIET-DPRK CULTURAL
EXCHANGES WOULD TAKE PLACE DURING THE SEPTEMBER
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF NORTH KOREA'S INDEPENDENCE.

FADEYEV REPEATED THAT KIM IL-SONG MIGHT VISIT THE GDR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS WELL AS THE USSR THIS YEAR; ALTHOUGH THE TIMING FOR THE SOVIET VISIT IS NOT SET, IT COULD TAKE PLACE IN THE FALL OR THE WINTER. A DPRK VICE FOREIGN MINISTER WILL BE IN MOSCOW THIS SUMMER FOR CONSULTATIONS.

5. FADEYEV'S USUAL POSITIVE ACCENT ON SOVIET-DPRK VISIBLY DIMINISHED WHEN HE WAS ASKED FOR HIS INTERPRETATION OF KIM IL-SONG'S PUBLIC REFERENCES TO "DOMINATIONIST" AND "DOMINATIONISM" DURING THE RECENT HUA KUO-FENG AND CEAUSESCU VISITS TO PYONGYANG. FADEYEV FIRST POINTED TO A 1966 KOREAN WORKERS' PARTY PUBLIC STATEMENT WHICH, HE CLAIMED, AMOUNTED TO A SIMILAR AND SPECIFIC NORTH KOREAN WARNING TO CHINA. HE CONTINUED, HOWEVER, BY STATING THAT KIM IL-SONG'S "DOMINATIONISM" REFERENCES SEEMED DIRECTED AT ALL THREE BIG POWERS: THE US, CHINA AND THE USSR. HE HELD THAT THE NORTH KOREANS ARE SENSITIVE ABOUT "DOMINATIONISM" FROM ANY QUARTER; THIS EXPLAINS PYONGYANG'S DETERMINATION TO REMAIN AS SELF-SUFFICIENT AS POSSIBLE AND TO KEEP A CAREFUL BALANCE IN ITS RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW AND PEKING. FADEYEV THEN CLEARLY SUGGESTED THAT KIM'S USE OF "DOMINATIONISM" HAS NOT GONE DOWN WELL HERE BY SUMMING UP THAT, DESPITE THE NORTH KOREAN LEADERS' STATEMENTS, SOVIET-DPRK

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RELATIONS WILL "LIVE THROUGH" THE PRESENT PERIOD.
(COMMENT: SOVIET DISPLEASURE IS ALSO INDICATED BY THE
TOTAL IGNORING OF KIM'S AND CEAUSESCU'S REFERENCES
TO "DOMINATIONISM" IN THE SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS. A
TWO SENTENCE TASS PIECE IN MAY 10 IZVESTIYA MERELY
MENTIONED HUA'S DEPARTURE FROM PYONGYANG, WHERE HE
DISCUSSED "QUESTIONS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS
AND OTHER PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST." A BRIEF TASS
STORY DATED MAY 24 PYONGYANG AND CARRIED IN MAY 25
PRAVDA SIMPLY NOTES THE PUBLICATION OF THE DPRK-
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ROMANIAN COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING CEAUSESCU'S VISIT ALONG
WITH THE COMMUNIQUE'S REFERENCES TO THE EXCHANGES OF
OPINIONS IN THE TALKS ON STRENGTHENING BILATERAL
RELATIONS AND "INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL
INTEREST." STORY ENDS BY REPORTING SIGNING OF A JOINT
STATEMENT IN WHICH BOTH SIDES CONFIRMED THEIR INTEREST
IN STRENGTHENING FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH ALL
"SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES. END COMMENT.)

6. SOVIET ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID. FADEYEV, AS IN
PAST MEETINGS, STRESSED THAT SOVIET ECONOMIC AID WILL
REMAIN LIMITED TO THE SOVIET DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
THAT ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY. DESPITE PYONGYANG'S
REQUESTS FOR NEW SOVIET PLEDGES TO COINCIDE WITH THE
DPRK'S JUST LAUNCHED SEVEN YEAR PLAN, MOSCOW WILL NOT
BE PREPARED TO START NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL 1979, IN
CONJUNCTION WITH SOVIET PLANNING FOR ALLOCATIONS UNDER
THE NEXT (1980-85) SOVIET FIVE YEAR PLAN.

7. DURING DISCUSSION ON SOVIET-DPRK ECONOMIC RELATIONS,
FADEYEV MENTIONED THAT NUMEROUS NORTH KOREAN LABORERS
ARE ENGAGED IN LUMBERING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES
NEAR VLADIVOSTOCK. THE KOREANS PROVIDE LABOR FOR
THIS ACTIVITY IN THIS AREA WHERE SOVIET MANPOWER IS
LOW, AND BOTH SIDES SHARE THE BENEFIT. (THE
APPARENT SHORTAGE OF SOVIET LABOR IN THE FAR EAST
WAS NOTED BY EMBOFFS RIDING A COMMUTER TRAIN
THROUGH THE MARITIME PROVINCE IN MARCH, 1978. THEY

OBSERVED SOVIET SOLDIERS LAYING NEW RAILROAD TRACK
EAST OF VLADIVOSTOCK.)

8. FADEYEV SAID THAT THE SOVIETS ARE NOT PLANNING
TO PROVIDE ANY NEW WEAPONS TO THE DPRK, ALTHOUGH
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THE SHIPMENT OF SPARE PARTS CONTINUES. AN EXCHANGE
SIMILAR TO THAT REPORTED REFTEL B, PARA 10, FOLLOWED
WITH FADEYEV CRITICIZING THE U.S. FOR INCREASING
ARMS SHIPMENTS TO THE ROK AND EMBOFF REBUTTING HIS
STATEMENTS.

9. DPRK FOREIGN POLICY. FADEYEV STATED THAT
PYONGYANG'S INCREASED DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY IS CHIEFLY
CENTERED ON NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND IS GEARED TO
ACQUIRE SUPPORT FOR THE DPRK'S POSITION ON RE-UNIFICA-
TION. HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE DPRK DEPUTY FOREIGN
MINISTER, DURING THE MOSCOW DPRK-SOVIET CONSULTATIONS

THIS SUMMER, WILL ASK FOR SOVIET SUPPORT IN RAISING
THE KOREAN ISSUE AT THIS YEAR'S UNGA. FADEYEV
COMMENTED THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WILL OF COURSE BE
RECEPTIVE TO DISCUSSING THE MATTER. HE ADDED HIS
"PERSONAL" OPINION, HOWEVER, THAT PROBABLY (NAVERNO)
THE ISSUE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AT THE UNGA THIS FALL.
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